

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 24, 45, and 47 as follows. Please cancel claims 25-44 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add new claims 48-70 as follows.

1-23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) A ~~telecommunications~~ system comprising:

a telecommunication network;

a first station; and

a plurality of second stations;

wherein the first station is configured to request a connection with at least one of said plurality of second stations, said connection request comprising a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one second station,

wherein the telecommunication network comprises at least one store configured to store location information for at least some of said second stations and a selector ~~selection-unit~~ configured to select at least one of the second stations for connection when said connection request is received in dependence on the location information stored in the store and the location criteria in the received connection request,

wherein the telecommunications system is further configured to connect the first station to the at least one second station selected by the selector ~~selection-unit~~.

Claims 25 - 44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for use in a telecommunications system comprising a telecommunication network, a first station and a plurality of second stations, the method~~ comprising:

defining, at ~~the~~ a first station of a telecommunication network, a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one second station;

requesting a connection with at least one second station satisfying said location criteria;

~~selecting, within a selection unit of the telecommunication network,~~ at least one of the second stations for connection, when said connection request is received, ~~independence~~ based on stored location information and the location criteria in the received connection request; and

establishing a connection between said first station and said at least one second station satisfying said location criteria.

46. (Cancelled)

47. (Currently Amended) A ~~telecommunications~~ system comprising:

a telecommunication network;

a first station;

a plurality of second stations;

defining means for defining at the first station a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one second station;

requesting means for requesting a connection with at least one second station satisfying said criteria;

selecting means for selecting at least one of the second stations for connection when said connection request is received in dependence on stored location information and the location criteria in the received connection request; and

establishing means for establishing a connection between said first station and said at least one second station satisfying said location criteria.

48. (New) A method comprising:

transmitting a request for a connection with one of a plurality of stations, the request comprising a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one of the stations;

storing location information for the stations in a register; and

selecting at least one of the stations for the connection based on the location information stored in the register and the location criteria.

49. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising attempting to initiate a connection with any of the stations satisfying the location criteria.

50. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising initiating a connection with a station satisfying the location criteria and falling in a predetermined group.

51. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising receiving information as to which of the stations satisfy the location criteria.

52. (New) The method as claimed in claim 51, further comprising selecting at least one of the stations based on said information.

53. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising defining an order in which connections to the stations satisfying the location criteria are to be attempted.

54. (New) The method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising attempting connections to the stations satisfying the location criteria randomly.

55. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit a request for a connection with one of a plurality of stations, the request comprising a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one of the stations;

a register configured to store location information for the stations; and

a selector configured to select at least one of the stations for the connection based on the location information stored in the register and the location criteria.

56. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 55, wherein the apparatus is configured to attempt to initiate a connection with any of the stations satisfying the location criteria.

57. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 55, wherein the apparatus is configured to initiate a connection with a station satisfying the location criteria and falling in a predetermined group of stations.

58. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 57, wherein a predefined location criteria is associated with the predetermined group.

59. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 57, wherein the predetermined group has a predetermined identifier associated therewith.

60. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 57, wherein the predetermined group is defined by the user of the apparatus.

61. (New) The apparatus as claimed in claim 55, further comprising a determiner configured to determine which stations satisfy the location criteria.

62. (New) An apparatus comprising:

transmitting means for transmitting a request for a connection with one of a plurality of stations, the request comprising a location criteria to be satisfied by at least one of the stations;

storing means for storing location information for the stations; and

selecting means for selecting at least one of the stations for the connection based on the location information stored in the register and the location criteria.

63. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, further comprising preventing a connection with the first station if the first station has made a connection request based on the location of the at least one second station.

64. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, further comprising permitting a connection only with predefined first stations if the first station has made a connection request based on the location of said at least one second station.

65. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, further comprising transmitting a message, indicating that a first station wishes to make contact, to a second station satisfying the location criteria.

66. (New) The method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the second station receiving said message is configured to indicate if the call is to be accepted.

67. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein said connection request comprises information identifying at least one second station, and wherein the method further comprises making a call between said first station and the identified at least one second station only if the location criteria is satisfied.

68. (New) The method as claimed in claim 67, wherein if the second station does not satisfy the location criteria at the time the connection request is made, the call is made at a subsequent time when the second station satisfies the location criteria.

69. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the first station or at least one of said second stations is a mobile terminal.

70. (New) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein said first station or at least one of said second stations is a fixed terminal.